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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/714,900	11/18/2003	Christophe Andrieu	245458US2CRL	3977
22850	7590	04/16/2008	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.			VO, DON NGUYEN	
1940 DUKE STREET			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			2611	
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
04/16/2008		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/714,900	Applicant(s) ANDRIEU, CHRISTOPHE
	Examiner Don N. Vo	Art Unit 2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 2-19,24-30,32,33,35 and 36 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 1,20-23,31 and 34 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 18 November 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/26/05

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because of legal phraseology "said".

Also, "Fig. 7" at the end of abstract page is suggested to be deleted. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1, 20-23, 31 and 34 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1, line 5, "initialising" is suggested to change to – initializing --.

In claim 20, line 1, "equalising" is suggested to change to – equalizing --.

In claim 21, line 6, "initialising" is suggested to change to – initializing --.

In claim 22, line 5, "initialising" is suggested to change to – initializing --.

In claim 23, line 1, "equaliser" is suggested to change to – equalizer --.

In claim 31, line 1, "equaliser" is suggested to change to – equalizer --.

In claim 34, line 1, "equaliser" is suggested to change to – equalizer --.

Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 2-19, 24-30, 32, 33, 35 and 36 are allowed.
5. Claims 1, 20-23, 31 and 34 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objections set forth in this Office action.

Conclusion

6. This application is in condition for allowance except for the above formal matters. Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213, (Comm'r Pat. 1935). A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

7. References Li (US 2007/0030919), Glendenning (US 7,333,539), Limberg et al (US 6,768,517) and Ansbro et al (US 6,330,294) are cited because they are pertinent to the method and apparatus for estimating the values of the received signals using equalizer. However, none of the cited references teaches or suggests a method of estimating values for signals of a sequence of signals transmitted from a transmitter through a channel to a receiver, providing a received signal, the method employing a plurality of particles, each particle comprising a postulated transmitted signal history, comprising, in combination, the arrangements of initializing a set of said particles;

evolving said set of particles over time using said received signal to generate a succession of evolved sets of particles; tracing a plurality of paths through said succession of evolved sets of particles backwards in time; and determining a sequence of values for said transmitted sequence of signals using said paths as recited in claim 1 and the corresponding apparatus claims 21, 22 or the arrangements of the filters and estimator as recited in claims 24, 32, 35 and 36.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Don N. Vo whose telephone number is (571) 272-3018. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (9:00AM - 6:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, MOHAMMAD GHAYOUR can be reached on (571) 272-3021. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Don N. Vo/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2611